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National Abortion Federation calls on Canadian Medical Association to Require Doctors to Refer for Abortion

The U.S. based National Abortion Federation has demanded that the Canadian Medical Association change their policy of allowing doctors to decline to refer patients for abortion. In a letter sent to the CMA earlier this month, Federation president Vicki Saporta said a physician's "religious and moral beliefs" should not take precedence over patient interests and accused the CMA of creating delays for women with the conscientious objector policy. Dr. Colin McMillan, president of the CMA, defended the policy in a letter to Ms. Saporta quoted by the National Post, saying, "The CMA's policy on induced abortion does not violate our Code of Ethics...Nor does it treat women unfairly or impede their access to critical health care." The CMA's abortion policy was passed in 1988 and has been re-confirmed annually each year since. Concerned by threats to doctors' freedom of conscience, Canadian Physicians for Life is urging the public to contact the CMA and request that the protection for doctors' freedom of conscience be strengthened.

Amnesty International Admits to New Policy Supporting Abortion

Officials with Amnesty International admitted earlier this month that the human rights group will begin lobbying for abortion to be decriminalized globally. Amnesty had previously held a neutral position on abortion. The organization officially adopted the new policy last month, pursuing the removal of all criminal penalties against those "seeking, obtaining, providing information about, or carrying out abortions." Amnesty introduced a proposal to adopt a pro-abortion position two years ago, a suggestion which upset pro-life members internationally and led to a volatile debate over the future of support for the organization. The new policy change was deliberately kept from the public, according to a document outlining the changes to members that was obtained by pro-life groups from a members-only page of Amnesty's website. The document stated, "This policy will not be made public at this time," and warned sections of the organization not to issue press releases or public statements on the change.

U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Ban on Partial Birth Abortion

On April 18, 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court voted 5-4 in favour of the federal partial birth abortion ban that was signed into law by President George Bush in 2003. The ruling upholds a ban on late-term abortion procedures in which the living baby is partially delivered from the body of the mother either feet-first "past the [baby's] navel" or "in the case of a head-first presentation, the entire fetal head is



outside the body of the mother" before it is killed. Justice Anthony Kennedy cast his vote with Justices Samuel Alito, Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas and Chief Justice John Roberts. While Justice Kennedy said the ruling upheld *Roe v. Wade*, in his written decision he said opponents to the ban "have not demonstrated that the Act would be unconstitutional in a large fraction of relevant cases." The ruling was the first federally-imposed restriction on abortion in the U.S. to be upheld by the courts since the 1973 abortion decision.

National Post Publishes Front Page Story on Abortion

One of Canada's largest national newspapers ran an extensive front page story on abortion on Saturday, May 5, in a bold move to break the media silence on the issue. The article was entitled 'The A Word: How did abortion, that most contentious of issues, become one that is simply not discussed publicly?' Written by Anne Marie Owens, it was the first of three major articles related to abortion to run in the newspaper over the past two weeks, generating a high volume of letters to the editor in the days following. The second article reported on the controversy over the abortion policy of the Canadian Medical Association, published May 10, and the third was coverage of the National March for Life, published May 11. See *The A Word* here: <http://www.canada.com/nationalpost/story.html?id=c9fb6309-0a11-4951-b859-f1f5135915b8&k=52768>

Book Now for LifeCanada's No Show Cruise

Remember last year's No Show fundraising banquet? This year we have a whole new opportunity for you to support LifeCanada's pro-life educational work. The non-event is scheduled for Friday, July 1, 2007 (or the date of your choice). For more information please visit: www.lifecanada.org/cruise

No sunscreen! No seasickness! No Go!

Tickets are \$35.00 per person and include an audio CD of a talk by Dr. Robert Spitzer entitled "A Pro-Life Response to Euthanasia". We would like to invite all "non-participants" to forward a picture of their own cruise which we will post on our website. We were quite impressed by everyone's creativity last year and look forward to seeing what you come up with this year. Last year's photos can still be viewed at: www.lifecanada.org/html/GalaDinnerPhotoGallery.html

We thank you in advance for your support of this fundraising event which allows us to produce resources that can be used to promote respect for all human life throughout Canada.

Position available

LifeCanada, the national pro-life educational organization, has launched a job search to find a new executive director for its Ottawa office. The Executive Director must have an extensive knowledge of life issues (abortion, euthanasia & assisted suicide, stem cell research), excellent communication skills, a working knowledge of Microsoft office software, be resourceful and able to oversee all aspects of the organization. Bilingualism (French and English) and experience in fundraising are definite assets. Salary to be discussed.

The closing date for applications is May 30.

Anyone interested in applying for the position can request the job description from: info@lifecanada.org or by calling the LifeCanada office at 613-722-1552. We will only be contacting those applicants we wish to interview.



Coming Events

2007 Conference in Moncton to Feature Fun Events!

Moncton Right to Life is hosting the 2007 national conference next October 25 to 27 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Moncton, New Brunswick. Here is the latest news from conference organizers about what to look forward to:

- Besides a host of 13 top speakers, our 2007 national pro-life conference will feature a number of special activities.
- Since Moncton is situated by the Atlantic coast, and nearby Shediac is the "lobster capital of the world," Thursday morning will feature a 2.5 hour seaside cruise around beautiful Shediac Bay, with onboard lobster lunch. The boat is heated and sheltered from the elements, the crew will regale us with lobster tales, so come on board! Expected cost approximately \$60. Limited seating.
- For early bird registrants (by Sept. 25), you will have a chance to win a cold pack of Atlantic lobster for you to bring back home (6 or more lobster, \$100 value)!
- Since Moncton and region is home to a large Acadian population, our conference will have a certain Acadian flavour. The world-famous Acadian folk choir Les Jeunes Chanteurs d'Acadie will perform on Friday evening. The nearby (walking distance) spiritual centre for Acadians, the Notre Dame de l'Assomption Cathedral, will be the site of daily masses for pro-life intentions.
- Another special activity is the Friday prayer vigil at nearby Georges Dumont Hospital, one of two hospital abortion sites in New Brunswick.

Weather note: Fall is one of the most beautiful times to visit the Maritimes. Typically lots of sun, and our fall colours are spectacular!

New Euthanasia DVD now available

The new DVD on euthanasia and assisted suicide entitled: Turning the Tide produced by the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition and Salt and Light television media foundation is now available.

Turning the Tide features: Bobby Schindler (Terri Schiavo's brother), Wesley Smith (Attorney, International Task Force on Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide), Catherine Frazee (former chair of the Ontario Human Rights Committee), Adrian Dieleman (counselor, rehabilitation clinic for spinal cord injuries in Hamilton), Jean Echlin (palliative care nursing consultant), Senator Sharon Carstairs (Senator from Manitoba), Alex Schadenberg (executive director, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition), Reg Hancock (spinal cord injury survivor) and more.

A Discussion Guide for small group or classroom presentations has been designed for use and included with the DVD package. The discussion guide enables groups and individuals who share our concerns about vulnerable people to organize effective presentations on the issues. It is our hope that Turning the Tide will be used to facilitate many discussion forums throughout North America.

The Turning the Tide DVD package can be ordered from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition for \$50.00 for 1 package, \$70.00 for 2 packages, or \$100.00 for 4 packages by contacting the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition at: Box 25033, London ON, N6C 6A8, email: info@epcc.ca, or calling: 1-877-439-3348. Further bulk rates exist upon request

Pro-Life Walk Across Canada this Summer

Since 1995, students from colleges and universities across the America have been spending their summers walking with Crossroads in order to change hearts and minds and to help build up a Culture



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of Life. Crossroads is planning the first annual Cross-Canadian Walk for Life starting in Vancouver on May 19 and ending in Ottawa on August 11, 2007.

Crossroads is continuing to accept applications for the Summer 2007 walks. For more information or to apply, go to www.crossroadswalk.org

Pre-Authorized Giving Plan

LifeCanada is now able to accept pre-authorized monthly donations. This is a tremendous option for LifeCanada because it allows us to schedule our educational pro-life activities since we know in advance how much support is coming in each month. It is also easy for our supporters since they just complete a form, send in one cheque and then the pre-authorized amount is automatically deducted from their bank account. Donors maintain control of their donations by simply contacting us by phone, email or letter to let us know if they wish to make changes or cancel the plan.

If you would like to donate ten, twenty, fifty dollars or any other amount to LifeCanada each month, please contact us and we will send you the necessary form to complete.

Become a Partner for Life

We are actively seeking sponsors/advertisers for our newly-designed website (www.lifecanada.org) and for our bi-monthly newsletter. We do not have a charitable tax number but these ads can certainly be a business expense as you promote your business to our supporters.

Our rates for this project are reasonable. A business card ad in LifeCanada News will cost \$125 per issue or \$600 for the full year. Your sponsorship ad on our website will be posted for a year for a cost of \$500. We see this as a great opportunity to build a pro-life network across the country and help to secure LifeCanada's financial base.

For more information, please call LifeCanada's toll free number 1-866-780-5433 or email us at info@lifecanada.org